

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: David Chao, Brian Blount, Charles Erickson, Shari Gharavy, Cheng Zhou, Joshua Toub

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Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING DISTRIBUTOR INFORMATION

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants wish to call the following information and corresponding documents to the attention of the Examiner.

Applicant specifically calls the Examiner's attention to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/896,144. The present application and U.S. Patent Application No. may be considered to have similar subject matter. All documents related to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/896,144 are available in the U.S.P.T.O.'s Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Applicants have not sent the physical documents from U.S. Patent Application No. 09/896,144 since the documents are available in the PAIR system.

Citation of the above information and corresponding documents shall not be construed as:

1. an admission that the information and corresponding documents are necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention;
2. a representation that a search has been made, other than as described above; or
3. an admission that the information and corresponding documents cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

The Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted via the USPTO EFS. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 502264.

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that on January 26, 2009 this correspondence is being transmitted via the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office's electronic filing system.

/Kent B. Chambers/

Respectfully submitted,

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